

Remarks/Arguments:

Claim Status:

Claims 13-32 are currently pending in the application.

In the Office Action dated March 2, 2006, claims 13-23, 25 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,102,495 ("Zaviska"). Claims 27-32 were allowed. Claim 24 was objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but was considered allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim. The Office Action was made final.

The Office Action and the references cited therein have been carefully considered by the Applicants. In view of the foregoing claim amendments and the following remarks, Applicants have placed the application in condition for allowance.

This Amendment is being filed within two months of the mailing date of the March 2, 2006 final Office Action. Applicants respectfully request that the application be processed to issue.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's allowance of claims 27-32, and the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in dependent claim 24. As noted below, Applicants have amended the claims to place all claims in allowable form.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

To place the application in condition for allowance, Applicants have amended independent claim 13 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 24. Claim 13 is believed to be in allowable form. Claims 14-23, 25 and 26 are dependent on amended claim 13 and incorporate all the elements recited in amended claim 13. Therefore, claims 14-23, 25 and 26 are believed to be allowable for at least the same reason that claim 13 is allowable. Since the subject matter of claim 24 was incorporated into base claim 13, claim 24 has been cancelled.

Conclusion

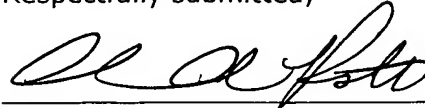
In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that the application is in a condition for allowance. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the

Appln. No.: 10/502,494
Amendment Dated April 24, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated March 2, 2006

PC10335US

Applicants' undersigned attorney if the Examiner believes that issues remain regarding the allowability of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **18-0350** for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: April 24, 2006



Kathleen Spina

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